



United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

TCHELF
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12192 site_id

AMARILLO WILDLIFE REFUGE,
INC.

4401 REDDING RD
AMARILLO, TX 79124

Customer ID: 3905
Certificate: 74-C-0486

Site: 001

(b)(6), (b)(7)c

Inspection
Type: ROUTINE INSPECTION
Date: DEC-14-2003

2.40 (a) (1)

DIRECT

2.40 (b) (2)

ATTENDING VETERINARIAN AND ADEQUATE VETERINARY CARE (DEALERS AND EXHIBITORS).

2.40 (a) Each dealer or exhibitor shall have an attending veterinarian who shall provide adequate veterinary care to its animals in compliance with this section.

(1) each dealer and exhibitor shall employ an attending veterinarian under formal arrangements. In the case of a part-time attending veterinarian or consultant arrangements, the formal arrangements shall include a written program of veterinary care and regularly scheduled visits of the premises of the dealer or exhibitor;

There is no current program of veterinary care. Licensee states that he uses a local veterinarian and consultants in other states but there are no regularly scheduled visits and no records to indicate that a veterinarian with adequate expertise has visited the premises recently.

Correction: A formal program of veterinary care (PVC) shall be detailed in writing with all veterinarians, including consultants, with their roles detailed. Names and credentials of appropriate veterinarian(s) with adequate training and experience for the species on this premises shall be forwarded to the Western Regional Office for approval by 1/5/04.

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2.40 (b) (2) Each dealer or exhibitor shall establish and maintain programs of adequate veterinary care that include:

(2) The use of appropriate methods to prevent, control, diagnose, and treat diseases and injuries, and the availability of emergency, weekend, and holiday care;

One of the capuchin monkeys and several of the chimpanzees have moderate to severe alopecia. One chimpanzee, Edith, also has what appears to be abrasions or some kind of skin lesions along with the hair loss. These animals have not been examined by a veterinarian to determine the cause of the alopecia and to supply appropriate treatment for these conditions.

Correction: Once a PVC has been completed and an appropriate veterinarian with adequate training and/or experience in

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primate medicine has been identified, he/she should examine these animals to determine the underlying cause and to determine appropriate treatment. The schedule for such an examination should be made available to Animal Care at their request.

2.40 (b) (2)

The licensee is currently feeding dog food as the main component of the primate diet. This is not an adequate diet. There are fruits and vegetables available for the primates but they are of poor quality with considerable spoilage.

The licensee is feeding the exotic cats a combination of horse meat, beef, and various types of poultry. There is also supplement available but it is outdated. There is a feeding plan signed by a local veterinarian but it is not specific as to supplements and the diet the licensee states he is feeding these cats is not the same as this plan. There is no specific dietary plan approved by a veterinarian for the infant and juvenile cats.

The diets fed to the primates and the exotic cats should be reviewed and approved by a veterinarian with adequate training and/or experience in each of these types of animals.

Correction: Once a PVC has been completed and an appropriate veterinarian with adequate training and/or experience in primate medicine has been identified, he/she should examine these animals to determine the underlying cause and to determine appropriate treatment. The schedule for such an examination should be made available to Animal Care at their request.

2.40 (b) (2)

The llamas have patchy areas on their sides that have hair loss and thickened skin. The licensee says that he observes them rubbing or scratching on objects in their enclosure.

A qualified veterinarian should examine these animals to determine the underlying cause and recommend appropriate treatment.

Correction: Arrange for a veterinary exam by 12/29/03

2.40 (b) (2)

An aged leopard named Captain is displaying stiffness in walking and some reluctance to move in a normal fashion. He also is displaying a "hunched" posture.

This animal should be examined by a veterinarian with adequate training and/or expertise in exotic cat medicine to determine if there are underlying conditions that could be identified and possibly treated.

Correction: Arrange for a veterinary exam by 1/5/04

2.40 (b)(2)

There are expired drugs and supplements in several locations at this facility including the primate diet kitchen, the storage building next to the exotic cat enclosures, and refrigerators in the garage attached to the main house. These drugs include but are not limited to: chloramphenicol, Dimetapp, cough syrup, Clovite, ampicillin, and others.

Outdated drugs and supplements should not be used and should be discarded. Drugs that are out of date should be disposed of at the direction of the attending veterinarian.

Correction: Expiration dates should be checked on all drugs and supplements on the premises and handled accordingly by 1/5/04. A system of regular review should be in place to ensure that outdated drugs and supplements are disposed and not used.

3.50 (a)

FACILITIES, GENERAL.

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3.50 (a) Structural strength. Indoor and outdoor housing facilities for rabbits shall be structurally sound and shall be maintained in good repair, to protect the animals from injury, to contain the animals, and to restrict the entrance of other animals.

The licensee states that he was given several hundred rabbits but didn't build any facility to contain them or house them. We counted only two rabbits on site during the inspection and they were free to roam the property. The licensee stated that some escaped and some were given away and some are still around. He doesn't have an accurate count of how many are left. Any rabbits that are contained in the "exhibit area" should be kept in appropriate housing to protect them.
Correction: Identify all remaining rabbits and provide adequate housing and containment for them by 1/26/03.

3.75 (e)

HOUSING FACILITIES, GENERAL.

3.75 (e) Storage

Supplies of food and bedding must be stored in a manner that protects the supplies from spoilage, contamination, and vermin infestation. The supplies must be stored off the floor and away from the walls to allow cleaning underneath and around the supplies. Food requiring refrigeration must be stored accordingly, and all food must be stored in a manner that prevents contamination and deterioration of its nutritive value.when not in actual use, open food and bedding supplies must be kept in leakproof containers with tightly fitting lids to prevent spoilage and contamination. Substances that are toxic to the nonhuman primates but that are required for normal husbandry practices must not be stored in food storage and preparation areas, but may be stored in cabinets in the animal areas.

Much of the produce stored in the primate kitchen area is non-refrigerated and there is a moderate to high degree of spoilage of much of this produce. A refrigerator used to store some of the produce is very dirty and much of the produce stored in it is molding and spoiled.

Dry food (dog food) stored in this area is in open bags and other containers with no lids.

The area under and around the shelves storing much of the produce is dirty and has dried food and liquid on it.

There are disinfectants and other cleaning and pest control supplies stored in the same cabinet and on the same shelf and a shelf above the drugs, food supplements and food for the primates.

Correction: This area should be thoroughly cleaned and a method of proper storage of all food stuffs, drugs, supplies, and equipments should be in place by 1/5/04

3.76 (b)

INDOOR HOUSING FACILITIES.

3.76 (b) Ventilation. Indoor housing facilities must be sufficiently ventilated at all times when nonhuman primates are present to provide for their health and well-being and to minimize odors, drafts, ammonia levels, and moisture condensation. Ventilation must be provided by windows, doors, vents, fans, or air conditioning. Auxiliary ventilation, such as fans, blowers, or air conditioning, must be provided when the ambient temperature is 85 F or higher.

The primate kitchen area has a strong odor of ammonia and rotting produce. This area must be sufficiently ventilated to provide for the health of the primates and to minimize odors. While there is an air conditioning unit on top of the primate kitchen facility that is used when temps. are greater than 85 degrees, when temps are cooler another form of ventilation must be used.

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Correction: 2/13/03

3.81 (a X 3)

DIRECT

3.81 (a)

3.81 (c X 1)

3.81

ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT TO PROMOTE PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING.

3.81 (a) social grouping (3) Nonhuman primates may not be housed with other species of primates or animals unless they are compatible,..... and are not known to be hazardous to the health and well-being of each other.

The two capuchin monkeys are housed in a building that also serves as the housing for birds including several psittacines. It is not appropriate for nonhuman primates to be housed with these birds because of health hazards. The indoor housing for these monkeys should not be in an area that includes birds.

Correction: See below

3.81 (a) Social grouping.

The environment enhancement plan must include specific provisions to address the social needs of nonhuman primates of species known to exist in social groups in nature. Such specific provisions must be in accordance with currently accepted professional standards, as cited in appropriate professional journals or reference guides, and as directed by the attending veterinarian.

A 7 month gibbon is being handraised away from the other primates at the facility. The animal was removed from it's mother at 5 1/2 months of age and is being raised in the residence of the licensee. There are no provisions in the environmental enhancement plan for addressing the social needs of this primate. There is no exemption from an attending veterinarian that excludes this animal from this part of the plan.

Correction: See below

3.81 (c) Special considerations.

Certain nonhuman primates must be provided special attention regarding enhancement of their environment, based on the needs of the individual species and in accordance with the instructions of the attending veterinarian. Nonhuman primates requiring special attention are the following:

(1) Infants and young juveniles;

(4) Individually housed nonhuman primates that are unable to see and hear nonhuman rimates of their own or compatible species;

A 7 month gibbon is being handraised away from the other primates at the facility. The animal was removed from it's mother at 5 1/2 months of age and is being raised in the residence of the licensee. There is no written plan addressing this situation that requires special attention.

Instructions pertaining to the special needs of this infant that are approved by an appropriate veterinarian with adequate

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training and/or experience with nonhuman primates must be addressed in the Environmental enhancement plan for the primates at this facility.

Correction: See below

3.81 Environment enhancement to promote psychological well-being.

Dealers, exhibitors, research facilities must develop, document, and follow an appropriate plan for environment enhancement adequate to promote the psychological well-being of nonhuman primates. The plan must be in accordance with the currently accepted professional standards as cited in appropriate professional journals or reference guides, and as directed by the attending veterinarian.

This facility does not have an environmental enhancement plan that includes all the species of primates and there is not adequate documentation to suggest that the plan in existence is being followed.

Correction: A new plan to be directed by an appropriate veterinarian with adequate training and/or experience with primates should be written with followup documentation to show that an appropriate plan is being followed at this facility. This should be completed by 2/13/04. This plan should contain corrections for the above listed sections of 3.81.

3.82 (a)

DIRECT

FEEDING.

3.82 (a) The diet for nonhuman primates must be appropriate for the species, size, age, and condition of the animal, and for the conditions in which the nonhuman primate is maintained, according to generally accepted professional and husbandry practices and nutritional standards. The food must be clean, wholesome, and palatable to the animals. It must be of sufficient quantity and have sufficient nutritive value to maintain a healthful condition and weight range of the animal and to meet its normal daily nutritional requirements.

The primates at this facility are being fed dog food as the main part of their diet with produce as an addition. Much of the produce that was in the nonhuman primate kitchen was in various stages of spoilage and was not of sufficient quality to be fed to nonhuman primates.

This is not an appropriate diet for primates.

A proper dietary plan should be written by either an appropriate veterinarian with adequate training and/or experience with primates or an expert in primate nutrition. This plan should address the specific needs of all species on nonhuman primates at this facility and should also include the special needs of the infant or juvenile nonhuman primates. There should be adequate documentation that this plan, once formulated, is being followed.

Correction: Begin feeding a commercial complete primate diet by 12/22/03. Once an appropriate primate veterinarian is approved, he/she should do a thorough analysis of the primate diet at this facility to ensure its appropriateness.

3.84 (c)

CLEANING, SANITIZATION, HOUSEKEEPING, AND PEST CONTROL.

3.84 (c) Housekeeping for premises

Premises where housing facilities are located, including buildings and surrounding grounds, must be kept clean and in good repair in order to protect the nonhuman primates from injury, to facilitate the husbandry practices required in this

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subpart, and to reduce or eliminate breeding and living areas for rodents, pests, and vermin. Premises must be kept free of accumulations of trash, junk, waste, and discarded matter.

The primate kitchen is generally not clean and has an accumulation of trash and waste materials. Specifically, utensils used for preparing food are not clean, with an accumulation of dried food stuffs on them, some are also rusty; the cutting board used to prepare food is not cleaned and disinfected every day and has an accumulation of food particles and produce juices on it; the floor is not being adequately cleaned and has an accumulation of food particles and dried juices from the produce. Supplies, equipment, enrichment items, etc. are not stored in an orderly manner. The area under the sink is being used for storage with an old, open and deteriorating cardboard box, a container of kitty litter, an open refuse container, and other items.

Correction: This area should be thoroughly cleaned and a method of proper storage of all food stuffs, drugs, supplies, and equipments should be in place by 1/5/04

3.85

EMPLOYEES.

3.85 Every person subject to the animal Welfare regulations maintaining nonhuman primates must have enough employees to carry out the level of husbandry practices and care required in this subpart. The employees who provide husbandry practices and care, or handle nonhuman primates, must be trained and supervised by an individual who has the knowledge, background, and experience in proper husbandry and care of nonhuman primates to supervise others. The employer must be certain that the supervisor can perform to these standards.

There is a shortage of adequately trained employees or volunteers at this facility so that the required level of husbandry and care is achieved. This is evidenced by the need for more and better housekeeping, a more complete enrichment program and better documentation of enrichment and other programs.

There is currently no organized method of documenting the training of staff and volunteers.

Correction: An appropriate number of adequately trained employees or volunteers should be present at this facility to carry out the level of husbandry practices and care required. The licensee should provide the credentials for the person who is responsible for training and supervising the staff and volunteers to demonstrate that that person can perform to those standards. All training provided to the staff and volunteers should be documented to show that they are trained adequately.

An overall training plan should be formulated that includes the above guidelines along with a method and timeline to accomplish the plan and should be forwarded to the Western Regional Office by 1/5/04.

3.125 (a)

3.125 (c)

3.125 (d)

FACILITIES, GENERAL.

3.125 (a) Structural strength. The facility must be constructed of such material and of such strength as appropriate for the animals involved. The indoor and outdoor housing facilities shall be structurally sound and shall be maintained in good repair to protect the animals from injury and to contain the animals.

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The three sided shed that provides shelter for the zebra and two llamas has large parts of the tin on the inside loose and pulling away from the rest of the structure, presenting a hazard to the animals because of the sharp edges.

Correction: 12/26/03

3.125 (c) Storage. Supplies of food and bedding shall be stored in facilities which adequately protect such supplies against deterioration, molding, or contamination by vermin.

The meat intended for the exotic cats is stored in several different refrigerators and freezers that have not been sufficiently cleaned. There is an accumulation of blood and particles from the meat in these containers that should be cleaned on a more frequent basis.

Some of the packaging containing the meat has torn or been completely discarded, causing freezer burn to the meat and reducing it's nutritional quality and palatability.

Correction: Clean all storage areas containing food and make sure food is properly packaged within those containers by 1/5/04.

3.125 (d) Waste disposal. Provision shall be made for the removal and disposal of animal and food wastes, bedding, dead animals, trash and debris.

There is a large amount of feces in front of the shelter in the enclosure of the zebra and two llamas. This area should be cleaned more often so as to prevent the accumulation of excessive amounts of feces.

Correction: 12/22/03

3.127 (b)

3.127 (d)

FACILITIES, OUTDOOR.

3.127 (b) Shelter from inclement weather.

Natural or artificial shelter appropriate to the local climatic conditions for the species concerned shall be provided for all animals kept outdoors to afford them protection and to prevent discomfort to such animals.

The two caracals are housed in an enclosure that contains two uninsulated "dogloos" for their shelter. These animals should have some form of supplemental heat in this enclosure in this climate.

Correction: 12/22/03

Note:

The two young African lion cubs are outside in an enclosure during the day with uninsulated shelters. The licensee states that he takes the animals in the house at night. The shelters outside should be prepared so that they have supplemental heat when the lions are out in inclement weather during the day or should also be taken inside during the day. As they get too old to take in the house for shelter, they must be provided shelters with supplemental heat.

3.127 (d) Perimeter fenceall outdoor housing facilities must be enclosed by a perimeter fence that is of sufficient height to

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keep animals and unauthorized persons out....The fence must be constructed so that it protects the animals in the facility by restricting animals and unauthorized persons from going through it or under it an dhaving contact wit the animals in the facility.....

The Perimeter fence in the area of the zebras and the llamas is not structurally sound, as a secondary containment system for the large felids, due to the bottom edge of the "Chain-Link" fencing not being secured to the railing along the bottom edge of the perimeter fence. There is approx. 40 feet of the perimeter fence which which is not adequately secured along the bottom. The perimeter fence shall be secured to all framing and supportive structures so as to keep all covered species in and other animals out.

Correction date: 12/20/03

3.129 (a)

DIRECT

FEEDING.

3.129 (a) The food shall be wholesome, palatable, and free from contamination and of sufficeint quantity and nutritive value to maintain all animals in good health.

The hay ring in the enclosure for the zebra and the llama contains hay that is very dusty and is contaminated with bird feces. The hay should be protected from contamination and the quality should be sufficient to maintain the health of the animals.

Correction: 12/19/03

3.129 (a) The minerals (Clovite) used as a supplement for the exotic cats is out of date (2/02 expiration date). This and any other supplements used should be checked to make sure they are of sufficient nutritive value for the animals being fed.

Correction: Only supplements that are within the expiration date should be fed at all times in the future.

3.132

EMPLOYEES.

3.132 A sufficient number of adequately trained employees shall be utilized to maintain the professionally acceptable level of husbandry practices set forth in this subpart. Such practices shall be under a supervisor who has a background in animal care.

There are not sufficient employees or volunteers at this facility to maintian the required husbandry practices. Deficiencies in housekeeping, maintenance of the facility and feeding and food storage are evidence of this .

Correction: An appropriate number of adequately trained employees or volunteers should be present at this facility to carry out the level of husbandry practices and care required. The licensee should provide the credentials for the person who is responsible for training and supervising the staff and voluteers to demonstrate that that person can perform to those standards. All training provided to the staff and volunteers should be documented to show that they are trained adequately.

An overall training plan should be formulated that includes the above guidelines along with a method and timeline to accomplish the plan and should be forwarded to the Western Regional Office by 1/5/04.

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